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Harvard College Library

FROM THE

GEORGE B. SOHIER PRIZE FUND

The surplus annual balance "shall be expended for books for the library."

— *Letter of Waldo Higginson,*
Jan. 10, 1893.

Received Nov. 27, 1906.

The horse, the sheep, and the ghos

0
Cambridge (Eng.) university press.

[Facsimiles of some 15th century books
in the university library.]

0

A
lytell treatyse
of
the horse, the sheep, and the ghoos
by
John Lydgate

Printed at Westminster
by Wynkyn de Worde
about 1499

Cambridge
at the University Press
1906

* 124³2.26.7



Solier fund

Among the collections of tracts in Bishop Moore's library presented to the University in 1715 by King George the First the volume marked AB. 4. 58 was one of the most remarkable. It contained one book printed by Pynson, and no less than twenty-five printed by Wynkyn de Worde, five of them at Westminster.

The Horse, the Sheep, and the Goose now reproduced was the twenty-fifth tract in the volume. No other copy of it is known to exist.

The woodcut which serves as a frontispiece must have been one of a set designed to illustrate an edition of Reynard the Fox. Mr Duff has noticed two other cuts from the same set; but the book for which they were made has entirely disappeared.

FRANCIS JENKINSON

1906 July 8

I certify that I have printed 250 copies only of this facsimile, that the impressions have been rubbed off the plates and the negatives destroyed.

P. DUJARDIN

25.



26



Here begynneth a lytell treatyse of
the houle/the sheep/and the ghoos.

On euerys/plees and dyscordes
Betwene persones were two or thre
Sought out the groundes by recordes
This was the custome of antyquyte
Juges were sette/that hadde auctoryte
The caas conceived standynge Indyfferent
Betwene partyes to gyue Jugement

Partyes assembled of hyghe and lowe degree
Weryn admytted to shewen in sentence
Grouded of theyr quarels flawe made hem free
Without excepcon to come in audyence
By the prisydent/commaunded fyrste scyence
Fredome gyue/the partyes not to spare
By tytell of ryght theyr greues to declare

Vpon this mater shortly to conclude
Nought pore agone as I reherse shall
I founde to purpose a symplytude
Full craftely depaynted vpon a wall
Tweyne syttyng in estate Ryall
The sperle lpon famole in all Royames
And themper pall egle percyng the sonne beames

These were the dredefull Juges tweyne
In theyr estate syttyng I toke hepe

The horse, the sheep, and the ghoos

Chastice remeinberth the swerde/ynflage/ & glasse
Presented were vpon a stede of brasse

Betwene two hylles the prophete Zacharye
Sawe stedes fourr/the fyrste of hem was rede
In chares fourr the felde to magnifye
And the seconde was blache it is no drede
The thyrde was whyte bodye necke and hede
The fourth drierle of colours/wonder stronge
And to knyghthode all these colours longe

The rede horse was token of hardynesse
Whiche apperteyneth to eury manly knyght
The cole blache hewe a sygne of sobernesse
Pooraylle opprestyd to helpe in theyr ryght
The whyte mylke stede that was glad of syght
Tokeneth h knyghthode treuly holde entende
Holy chyrche maydens and wydowes to defende

The manyfolde colours to speke in generall
Be sondry vertues and condycions
As the fourre vertues called cardynall
Longynge to knyghthode tenetee theyr remons
In re publyca/called the champpons
Trought to sustene and shewe hemselfe stronge
Sounde by ordre to see no man haue wronge

Withouten horse Justes the tournappl
May not beholde in warre ne in pees

Chaucer remembreth the swerde/ryfinge glasse
Presented were vpon a stede of brasle

Betwene two hylles the prophete Zacharye
Sawe stedes four/the fyrste of hem was rede
In chares foure the felde to magnifye
And the seconde was blacke it is no drede
The thyrde was whyte hodye necke and hede
The fourth dyuerse of colours/wonder stronge
And to knyghthode all these colours longe

The rede horse was token of hardynesse
Whiche apperteyneth to eury manly knyght
The cole blacke hewe a sygne of sobernesse
Poraylle oppresyd to helpe in theyr ryght
The whyte mylke stede that was glad of syght
Tokeneth þ knygthode treuly sholde entende
Holy chirche maydens and wydowes to defende

The manyfolde colours to speke in generall
Be sondry vertues and condycions
As the foure vertues called cardynall
Longynge to knyghthode tennete theyr renons
In re publyca/called the champpons
Trought to sustene and shewe hemselfe stronge
Sounde by ordre to see no may haue wronge

Withouten horse Justes ne tournayll
May not beholde in warre ne in pees

¶ Nor in palastre nor playes may pall
¶ If horse doo fayle may come to none entrees
¶ Ne nomay sochly dare put hym in pries
¶ Withoutey horse for shorte conclusyon
¶ To attayne the palme of triumphall guerdon

¶ Lower degrees ther bey of horse also
¶ Doo grete prouffyte/ to every comonte
¶ The plough ne carte myght nought do
¶ Without horse/ dayly ye may see
¶ Tyllinge were losse ne were we hoises perde
¶ The bely marchaūte to his auantage
¶ Ner chypes and horse coude haue no carpage

¶ The chyppe by lykenesse is called an hors of tree
¶ Full notably who can vnderstande
¶ To lede men and carpe them ouer the see
¶ As done horse whan they come to lande
¶ The poore may eke ledeth in a bande
¶ His lytell capull/ his corne his mele to selle
¶ And whan hit is grouden bryngeth it fro þe melle

¶ In wynter seASON to make beall chere
¶ The horse is nedefull wood and turf to carpe
¶ Wyne trupte & oyle to serue thurgh the yere
¶ Is brought to wynters and to potecarpe
¶ Dyuerse drugges and many a letuarpe
¶ Sondry bales and shortly all vytapll
¶ Of the carpage horse haue the trauayll

Trustely deme ye/late hit not be spared
Vnto an hors be sprened and compared

That I haue tolde is trougt and noo saynyng
Noo wyght of realon agayne hit may applye
Shoos ne gander ne grene gosselynge
But yf they entre the boundes of enuye
Lete her come forth and saye for her partye
Shoos yes truste me wel for the I wyl not spare
Lyke as I fele my verdyte to declare

Where as thou haste vnto thy pasture
But one place/to make in thy repayre
His is graunted to me by nature
To abyde on water/londe & eyer
Now amonge floures and grenes that be fayer
Now bathe in ryuers swymme in many a ponde
For stonne or thoure as drye as on the londe

To myne entencio thynges ye may see
As men experie knowen that ben olde
Whan wyld ghees hve in thayre byfleece
With theyr wynges dysplayed and unfold
A pronostyque of snowe and froste colde
Realendes bynge playnly for to laye
Agayne wynter how men sholde pourueye

The grees of ganders is good in medycyne
With sondry gommes sempred for the goute

¶ Dyuerte aches to swayed and declyne
¶ In the xtempte to drawe the malyce oute
¶ fethers of ghees whay they falle or moue
¶ To gadre hem vp herdes hem delyte
¶ To selle to fletchers the graye with the whyte

¶ Men plucke stalkes out of my wynges twayne
¶ Some to portrepe some to note or wryte
¶ Whay Rethoricyens haue doo theyr belye peyne
¶ fresshe epytles and lettres to endyte
¶ Without wrytyng auayleth not a myte
¶ For yf penne and wrytyng were a weye
¶ Of remembraunce thay were losse the keye

¶ Of ghees also the dede is prouyd ofte
¶ In many a contree and many a regyon
¶ To make pylowes and fetherbeddes losse
¶ Of prudence men plucke of the doun
¶ Thus to make a playne comparyson
¶ As pylowes ben to chambres agreable
¶ So is harde strawe lytter for the stable

¶ The fyne of ghees and grene ghoselynges
¶ Gadred in many amonge the herbes lote
¶ Agayne brennyng scaldyng and other thynges
¶ Tempred with oyle or butter dooth bothe
¶ To swage payne perceeth to the rote
¶ But hors doūge as tefule is caste awaye
¶ Is good for furney tempred with claye



Here begynneth a lytell treatyse of
the houle/the sheep/and the ghoos.

On euerys/plees and dyscordes
Bytwene persones were two or thre
Sight out the groundes by recordes
This was the custome of antyquyte
Juges were sette/that hadde auctorite
The caas conceived standynge Indyfferent
Bytwene partyes to gyue Jugement

Partyes assembled of hyghe and lowe degree
Were admittted to shewen in sentence
Grouded of theyr quarels flawe made hem free
Without excepcon to come in audyence
By the prisydent/commaunded fyrste scyence
Fredome gyue/the partyes not to spare
By tycell of ryght theyr greues to declare

Upon this mater shortly to conclude
Nought yore agone as I reherse shall
I founde to purpose a symplytude
Full craftely depaynted vpon a wall
Tweyne syttinge in estate Ryall
The sperle ypon famole in all Royames
And themper pall egle percyng the sonne beames

These were the dredefull Juges tweyne
In theyr estate syttinge I toke hepe
a ij

¶ That herde the parties by and by complayne
¶ The hors the ghoss and the symple shepe.
¶ The processe was not to perfounde ne depe
¶ Of theyr debate but contruyed of a fable
¶ Whiche of hem was to man moost prouffysable

¶ Eche for his partye proudeley gay procede
¶ To force hym selfe by recorde of scrypture
¶ By phylosophers as clerkes seen and rede
¶ The prerogatyues/gyued hem by nature
¶ Whiche of these thre/to every creature
¶ In republyca/auayleth moost a man
¶ For his partye thus fyrste the hoise began

¶ The hois.

¶ To procede bryefly and not longe to tarpe
¶ fyrste for the trought that I doo not erre
¶ What best is founde in all thynges so necessarye
¶ As is the hoise bothe nyghe and ferre
¶ And soo notable to man in peas and warre
¶ Hois in cronycles who soo redeth a ryght
¶ haue saued ofte a many a worthy knyght

¶ Marcyall promesse in espcyall
¶ God hath by hois gyue to warrpours
¶ Recorde of Alplaundre whos hois Duryfall
¶ Made hym escape fro many sharpe hours
¶ The golden chare of olde conquerours
¶ Towarde the tryumphe for knyghtly dedes
¶ Conceyued hit was with foure whyte stedes

There is noo beest/whiche is all degrees
Neyther Tygre/Dypphant/ne Gryffon
Alle thynges rehened thurgh every regyon
Dooth so grete prouffye/hoise/ghoos/ne may
As dooth the sheep vnto the eale of may

Lette be thy boost thou hoise & thy Jangelynge
Laye down thy trappours forged of plate & mayle
Caste of thy sadell of golde so freschly thynnyng
What may bydekt or voces now auayle
This goostly lambe hath done a grete batayle
By his mekenesse he offred vp for may
Clad in purppl vaynequylshed hath Sathay

The ghoos may cabbe the hoise pyke & pyncke
Neyther of hem in processe may atteyne
For to be sette or put in remembraunce
Agayne the lambe though they dysdeyne
For comon prouffye he passeth boche tweyne
Wepe and consydere bytwene poore and ryche
To hym in valowe they be no thyng. lyche

Of Butes althow his wulle is chref rycheffe
In pyce surmoostynge every other thyng
Hauie grapne & corne marchautes all expresse
Wulle is chref trefoure in this londe growynge
To ryche & poore this beest fynde clothyng
All nacpons afferme hit vp to the fulle
In all the worlde is no better wulle

Of the sheep also cometh pellet and eke selle
Sadred in this londe for grete marchaūdyse
Carped ouer the see where men may hit selle
The wulle skynnes causen men to ryle
In to grete rycheſſe in many sondry wyse
The sheep also tourneth to grete prouffyte
To helpe of man bereth furs black & whyte

There is also made of the sheeps skynne
Dylches & gloues to dryue awaye the colde
Therof also is made good parchemynne
To wryte of bookes & quayers manyfolde
The Ram of Cholchos bare a flees of golde
The flees of Gedeon with dewe delectable
Was of Maria a fygyre full notable

His fleſhe his naturall reſtauracyon
As ſome men ſeek after grete ſekeneſſe
Roſted or loden holſom is moton
Boyleth with grewell / phelycyens expreſſe
Full nutrytyſe after grete accelle
The ſheep alſo conc'udyngre doubtles
Of his nature loueth reſte and pees

Of the ſheep is caſte awaye no thyngre
His horne for noches to haſtes go his bone
To londe grete prouffyte doth his tyrtelnyngre
His talowe ſerued for plaſters mo than one
For harpe ſtrenges his roppes ſerue echone

¶ Of whos hede boyled with wulle and all
¶ Ther cometh a gely & an oynement ryall

¶ For the ache of bones & also for brosure
¶ Hit remedyeth and doth ease blyue
¶ Causeth men of starke Joyntes to recure
¶ Deed senewes restoreth agayne to lyue
¶ Blache shepes wulle with oyle olyue
¶ These men of armes with charmes proued good
¶ At a strait nede can well staunce blood

¶ Vnto the wolfe contrarie of nature
¶ As layen auctours is this humble beste
¶ Loueth no debate for whiche eche creature
¶ For his partye he wolde lyue in reste
¶ Wherefore ye Iuges I holde hit for the beste
¶ Rem' pub'p'cam/ye sholde of ryght preferre
¶ Alwaye consyderynge þ' peas is better than

¶ In this mater bryefly to conclude
¶ Peas to preferre as to my demyle
¶ By many olde proude symplytude
¶ Make no delaye / gyue the shepe the pyce
¶ Of one assent syth that ye be wyle
¶ Lete all warre and stryue be sette a syde
¶ And vpon peas do with the sheep abyde

¶ The horse.

¶ Nay sayd the horse your request is wronge
¶ All thyng consydered me were loth to erre

¶ Shepe ne otes playnly who lyfte lethe
¶ Hay fro the feldeis ner the medes gete
¶ To the garner neyther to the berne
¶ Without hoise be carped hit is lene
¶ And vnto purpose. I saye as I mene
¶ Ther is no beest rekene as I began
¶ Soo necessarie/as hoise is vnto man

¶ Auguste is a season mery and glad
¶ Whan euery tree with newe fruyte is lade
¶ With draught of hoise the sheeps ben home lad
¶ That moneth passed/the leeuys gyn to fade
¶ Whiche made in somer a pleasaunt lusty shade
¶ What done hoise thay to speke in wordes playd
¶ The seconde croppe they carpe home of rywey

¶ By draught of hoise fro ryuers and welles
¶ Bouges be brought to brewers for good ale
¶ Lede stone tymbre carpage of belles
¶ We bynge to chirches in troughe this is no tale
¶ We lede clothe sakes and many a large male
¶ And gladly somers be sente to fory
¶ With gardeyandes/how myght hois be forborn

¶ Ye prudent Judges the egle and the lyon
¶ What I haue sayd doch wysely aduertysse
¶ Weyeth this mater in your dyscrecyon
¶ Where ghoos or sheep playnly to deuyse
¶ Of theyr nature may in ony wyle

E Justely deme ye/late hit not be spared
E Into an hors be lykened and compared

E That I haue tolde is trought and noo faynyng
E Noo wyght of reason agayne hit may applye
E Schoos ne gander ne grene gosselynge
E But yf they entre the boundes of enuye
E Lete her come forth and save for her partye
E Schoos yes truste me wel for the I wyl not spare
E Lyke as I fele my verdyte to declare

E Where as thou haste vnto thy pasture
E But one place/to make in thy repayre
E Hit is graunted to me by nature
E To abyde on water/londe & eyer
E Now amonge floures and grenes that be fayer
E Now bathe in rpuers swymme in many a ponde
E For storne or shoure as drye as on the londe

E To myne entent mo thynges ye may seyn
E As men experte knowen that ben olde
E Whan wylde ghees hpe in thayre vp fleyn
E With theyr wynges dysplayed and vnfolde
E A pronostyque of snowe and froste colde
E Walendes bynge playnly for to save
E Agayne wynter how men sholde pourueye

E The grees of ganders is good in medycyne
E With sondry gommes sempred for the gouce

¶ Dyuerte aches to swayed and declyne
¶ In the xtempte to drawe the malice oute
¶ Fethers of ghees whan they falle or moute
¶ To gadre hem vp herdes hem delyte
¶ To selle to fletchers the grape with the whyte

¶ Men plucke stalkes out of my wynges twayne
¶ Some to portrepe some to note or wyte
¶ Whan Rethoricyens haue doo theyr belye peyne
¶ Fresshe epyllles and lettres to endyte
¶ Without wrytynge anayleth not a myte
¶ For yf pennes and wrytynge were awaye
¶ Of remembraunce thay were losse the heyre

¶ Of ghees also the dede is prouyd ofte
¶ In many a contree and many a regyon
¶ To make pylowes and fetherbeddes losse
¶ Of prudence men pluckey of the doun
¶ Thus to make a playne comparyson
¶ As pylowes ben to chambres agreable
¶ Soo is harde strawe lytter for the stable

¶ The fyne of ghees and grene ghoselynges
¶ Gaded in many amonge the herbes lote
¶ Agayne brennyng scaldynge and other thynges
¶ Tempred with oyle or butter dooth bothe
¶ To swage payne perceeth to the rote
¶ But hors douge as tefule is caste awaye
¶ Is good for furneyns tempred with claye

¶ If thy goodes to the not luffyle
¶ Conforme the euer to that thou haste
¶ Gouverne so thy selfe in suche a wyle
¶ In thy expenses make noo waste
¶ Grete excelle causeth vnchryft in haste
¶ Beware betyme bere this in thy herte
¶ My rule maketh ofte many men to smarte

¶ Beware of nouellys that be newe brought
¶ Though they be pleasaunt/loke faste thy tpype
¶ A halty worde may be to soie bought
¶ Close thy mouth lest thy tonge tryppe
¶ To thy selfe/loke thou make noba whyppe
¶ Hurte not thy selfe/lest thou soie rewe
¶ For thy owne ease/kepe thy tonge in mewe

¶ The worlde so wyde the aper so remuable
¶ The sely man so lytell of stature
¶ The grane and gounde of cloyng so mutable
¶ The fyre so hote and subtyll of nature
¶ The water neuer in one/what creature
¶ That made is of these foure thus flyttinge
¶ May endure stable & perseuere in abydinge

¶ The further I goo/the more behynde
¶ The more behynde/the ner my wayes ende
¶ The more I seche/the worse can I fynde
¶ The lyghter leue/the lother for to wende
¶ The truer I serue/the ferther out of mynde

¶ Thanke to the ghoos moost be gyuen of ryght
¶ Whiche in the felde soo proudey toke her flyght

¶ Slouth of my flyght for hasty necligence
¶ Of presumpcyon / the ghoos was lette behynde
¶ Whan the famous & the worthy duke of clarence
¶ Rode on Bayarde with his eyen blynde
¶ Flyght of my fethers was put out of mynde
¶ And for he lette that daye of me no force
¶ So lytell or nought what auayled hym his horse

¶ Bookes olde remembre well in sentence
¶ Whylom whan Rome by his foyn was take
¶ The Capytale kepte of with grete defence
¶ Noyle of a gandre / the captayne dyde wake
¶ Whiche remembred / they lette vp for his sake
¶ In theyr Temples wyde and olde
¶ A large gandre forged all of fyne golde

¶ His waker noyle was theyr sanatorne
¶ By whiche the captayne ranne vpon the walle
¶ Thus by a gandre recouered was the towne
¶ Called of the worlde the cyte moost ryalle
¶ Cyte of cytees that dare moost pryncypalle
¶ Was euer hors in booke that ye can rede
¶ Pro re publyca / that dyde suche a dede

¶ In the booke named of cheualrye destyne
¶ The storpe telleth as in sentemente

¶ Within Rome the gander was despyd
 ¶ Set in theyr Temples of grete affeccyon
 ¶ By Senatours of the towne magnetyed
 ¶ As chyef protectour & sauer of the coun
 ¶ Here horse & sheep laye theyr boost a doun
 ¶ But yf the Ram wit' his brassy belle
 ¶ Can for the sheep some better storie telle
 ¶ The Ram sweketh for the sheep
 ¶ The sheep was symple & lothe to make a fraye
 ¶ Lyke a beest dysposed to mekenesse
 ¶ The sturdy Ram his aduocate was that daye
 ¶ To fore the Juges he gay hym dresse
 ¶ With an exordye of lacy he dyde expresse
 ¶ *Beate purpurea ut rediores regum*
 ¶ *Induti lunt arietes ouium*

¶ Of this notable ryall hye scrypture
 ¶ Th' blestyd doctour Augustyn as I rede
 ¶ Be a man goostly fayre of fygure
 ¶ Of a meke sheep thus he doth procede
 ¶ Called Maria a mayde in thought & dede
 ¶ Brought forth a lambe of moost vertu
 ¶ The lambe of grace whos name was Jhesu

¶ Augustyn called this lambe in estate
 ¶ By manyfolde recorde of scrypture
 ¶ The ryall lambe of colour purpurate
 ¶ Whiche for mankynde lyste passyon tendure
 ¶ Borne of a mayde by grace agayne nature

¶ Within Rome the gander was despyd
 ¶ Set in theyr Temples of grete affectyon
 ¶ By Senatours of the towne magnetyed
 ¶ As chyet protectour & sauour of the toun
 ¶ Here horse & sheep laye theyr boost a doun
 ¶ But yf the Ram with his brassy belle
 ¶ Can for the sheep come better storie telle
 ¶ The Ram beareth for the sheep
 ¶ The sheep was symple & lothe to make a fraye
 ¶ Lyke a beest dysposed to mekenesse
 ¶ The sturdy Ram his aduocate was that daye
 ¶ Efore the Iuges he gan hym dresse
 ¶ With an exorde of latyn he dyde expresse
 ¶ Heite purpurea vt rectores regum
 ¶ Induti sunt arietes ouium

¶ Of this notable ryal hys scrpyture
 ¶ The blesyd doctour Augustyn as I rede
 ¶ Be a man goostly fayre of fygure
 ¶ Of a meke sheep thus he doth procede
 ¶ Called Maria a mayde in thought & dede
 ¶ Brought forth a lambe of moost vertu
 ¶ The lambe of grace whos name was Jhesu

¶ Augustyn called this lambe in estate
 ¶ By manyfolde recorde of scrpyture
 ¶ The ryal lambe of colour purpurate
 ¶ Whiche for mankynde lyste passyon tendure
 ¶ Some of a mayde by grace agayne nature



DUE JUL 26 11

T Nor in palastre nor playes marcpall
T If horse doo fayle may come to none encrees
T Ne nomay lothly dare put hym in pries
T Withouten horse for thorte conclusyon
T To attayne the palme of tryumphall guerdon

T Lower degrees ther bey of horse also
T Doo grete prouffyte / to every comonte
T The plough ne carte myght nought do
T Without horse / dayly ye may see
T Tyllynge were losse ne were we hoises perde
T The bely marchaūte to his auantage
T Ner chyppes and horse coude haue no carpage

T The chyppe by lykenesse is called an hois of tree
T Full notably who can vnderstande
T To lede men and carpe them ouer the see
T As done horse whan they come to lande
T The poore may eke ledech in a bande
T His lytell capull / his come his mele to selle
T And whan hit is growden bryngeth it fro þ melle

T In wynter seASON to make beall chere
T The horse is nedefull wood and turf to carpe
T Wyne fruyte & oyle to serue thurgh the yere
T As brought to vnyuers and to potecarpe
T Dyuerse drugges and many a letuarpe
T Sondry bales and shortly all bytapll
T Of the carpage horse haue the trauayll

¶ Shepe ne otes playnly who lyst lethe
¶ May fro the felde ner the medes grene
¶ To the garner neyther to the berne
¶ Without horse be carped hit is sene
¶ And vnto purpose. I saye as I mene
¶ Ther is no best rekene as I began
¶ Soo necessarye/as horse is vnto man

¶ Auguste is a seASON mery and glad
¶ Whan euery tree with newe fruyde is lade
¶ With draught of horse the sheups ben home lad
¶ That moneth passed/the leeuys gyn to fade
¶ Whiche made in somer a plesaunt lusty shade
¶ What done horse thay to speke in wordes pleyd
¶ The seconde croppe they carpe home of rydery

¶ By draught of horse fro ryuers and welles
¶ Bruges be brought to brewers for good ale
¶ Lede stone tymbre carpage of belles
¶ We bynge to churche in trougt this is no tale
¶ We lede clothe laches and many a large male
¶ And gladly somers be sente to fory
¶ With gardeuyandes/how myght hois be forborg

¶ Pe prudent Juges the egle and the lyon
¶ What I haue sayd doth wysely aduertysse
¶ Wepeth this mater to your dyscrecyon
¶ Where ghoos or sheep playnly to deuyse
¶ Of theyr nature may in ony wyle

**The hoile holdynge
with the ghoos.**

Soth go the hoile as to my Inwarde syght
Without warre afore as I you tolde
We may not saue/ne kepe our ryght
Our garylouns ner castellys olde
But here this sheep ruckynge in his folde
Sette ytell store of swerde nor arowes hene
Whan he in peas may pasture on the grene

Yf hit so stode that no warre were
Loste were the crafte of armorers
What sholde auaple polax swerde or spere
Or these daggers wrought by cuttellers
Bowes/crossbowes/arowes of fletchers
All these Instrumentes for the warre is wrought
Yf warres were stynt they sholde serue of nought

Theyr occupacyon sholde haue none entres
Knyghthode sholde not floure in his astate
In euery contre yf that ther were peas
No men of armes sholde be fortunate
Ipreue that peas is grounde of all debate
For in fyue spekes lyke as is a whele
Tourned all the worlde who consydereth wele

Begynne fyrste at peas whiche causeth rycheesse
And rycheesse is choypgynall of pryde

¶ Pryde causeth for lacke of tyghtwysnesse
¶ Warre bytweene reames loke on every syde
¶ Herres contrarie to peas wyl not abyde
¶ Thus fynally who can consydere and see
¶ Warre is thyet grounde & cause of povertee

¶ Hit is full harde to knowe any affaie
¶ Double bylage loketh out of every hood
¶ Surete is losse Traite is passe the date
¶ Thyfste hath take his lent over the flood
¶ Lawe can do no thyng without good
¶ Theef hath lent to go out at large
¶ Of the commons mylke hath take the charge

¶ And thou desyre thy selfe to auance
¶ Poore or ryche whether that thou be
¶ Belowely and gentyll in thy governaunce
¶ Good rule doubteles may best preferre the
¶ If thou be gentyll hurte not thy degre
¶ And thou be poore doo all that thou can
¶ To vse good maners for maner maketh may

¶ Atte thy mete be glad in contenauce
¶ Thy mete and drynke be thou mesurable
¶ Beware of surfete and mylgouvernaunce
¶ They cause meyn ofte to be unreasonable
¶ Suffre no thyng be sayd at thy table
¶ That ony may may hurte or dysplease
¶ For good mete & drynke arech Joye and ease

¶ If thy goodes to the not suffyle
¶ Conforme the euer to that thou haste
¶ Gouverne so thy selfe in suche a wyle
¶ In thyn expenses make noo waste
¶ Grete excelle causeth vnrhyft in haste
¶ Beware betyme bere this in thyn herte
¶ Myrrole maketh ofte many meny to smarte

¶ Beware of nouellps that be newe brought
¶ Though they be pleasaunt/loke faste thy lyppe
¶ A hasty worde may be to soie bought
¶ Close thy mouth lest thy tonge tryppe
¶ To thy selfe/loke thou make not a whyppe
¶ Hurte not thy selfe/lest thou soie rewe
¶ For thyn owne ease/kepe thy tonge in mewe

¶ The worlde so wyde the aper so remuable
¶ The selly man so lytell of nature
¶ The graue and gounde of clotyng so mutable
¶ The fyre so hote and subtyll of nature
¶ The water neuer in one/what creature
¶ That made is of these foure thus flyttinge
¶ May endure stable & perseuere in abydinge

¶ The further I goo/the more behynde
¶ The more behynde/the ner my wayes ende
¶ The more I seche/the worse can I fynde
¶ The lyghter leue/the lother for to wende
¶ The truer I serue/the ferther out of mynde

¶ Though I go loule I am tyed with a lyne
¶ Is it fortune or Infortune thus I fyne

¶ Explicit.

A n hare to his fomme is	a Crane dysplayde
h oldrynge or lenynge	a Pecok dysfygured
a Douue lyttech	a Turlewe vniopnted
a herte is herbozed	a Eyttoze vntached
a knyght is herbozed	a felant eyled
a buche is lodged	a pattyche eyled
a Squyer is lodged	a Woodcock thyed
a Roo is bedded	A ll smale byrdes thyed
a Poman is bedded	a pygge hedet & lyden
¶ If an herte stande he	a Lambe & hyde ihuldred
stalleth	a herte yf he be chasid he
¶ If a buche stande he	w yll desyre to haue a
herkenyth	ryuer . As loone as he
¶ If a roo stande he fereth	t aketh the ryuer he sus
a Dere broken	leth / yf he take ouer the
a Ghoos reryd	ryuer he crosseth / yf he
a Swanne lyfte	recome he recrosseth / &
a Capon sawlyd	yf he take with the stre
a Henne spoyled	me he fleteth / yf he tak
a Chekyu frusthed	ke agayu the strene he
a Malarde vnbraised	beteth or els beteth / yf
a Cony unlaced	he take the londe he
a heroy dysmembred	fleteth .

¶ Explicit.



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